

## Letter from the editors

A year has passed since the birth of the *Spanish Journal of Agricultural Research*. We are pleased to be able to report that the journal has grown considerably during the year. The number of manuscripts submitted is continuously increasing. During the first two months of 2004 the number of manuscripts received trebled over the same period last year.

We have Associate Editors from Argentina, Chile, France, Germany, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States. All of them are from universities or research organizations and are specialists in all of the disciplines that are covered by the *Spanish Journal of Agricultural Research*.

The authors we published in 2003 were mainly from Spain, but we also published papers from Argentina, Brazil, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. We are currently reviewing submitted manuscripts from Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Portugal and Turkey.

The journal is produced and distributed to 760 individuals and libraries in 49 countries by Mundi-Prensa, a leading publishing group in Spain, which specialises in technical and scientific publication of subjects like agriculture, the environment, economics and the life sciences.

The journal has its own web site: <http://www.inia.es/Gcont/publicaciones/index.jsp>, where essential information, including instructions to authors, the composition of the Editorial Board and an online versions of all the articles which were published in 2003. Further, an e-mail alert service is available, which includes article titles and abstracts, both in English and Spanish.

The journal is covered by: AGRICOLA (USA), AGRIS (FAO), ASFA (Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts), BIOSIS previews (Biological Abstracts, UK), CAB Abstracts (UK), CAB Health (USA), Compludoc (Spain), FSTA (Food Science and Technology Abstracts, USA), ICYT (Consejo Superior de

Investigaciones Científicas, Spain), GEOREF (USA) and PASCAL (France).

The *Spanish Journal of Agricultural Research* is a multidisciplinary journal. All articles are peer-reviewed and it is published quarterly, in English. The editorial quality of the *Spanish Journal of Agricultural Research* has been rated at maximum in the Latindex catalogue (a regional system of on-line information on scientific journals published in Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal, <http://www.latindex.org>) as the *Spanish Journal of Agricultural Research* meets all 33 parameters, which it considers for scientific journals.

We are proud to report that the *Spanish Journal of Agricultural Research* has been adopted by two Spanish professional societies as their official scientific journal. These societies are the *Sociedad Española de Agroingeniería* (SEA, Spanish Society for Agricultural Engineering) and the *Sociedad Española de Ciencias Hortícolas* (SECH, Spanish Society for Horticultural Science). This collaboration, with these two societies, is expected to provide interesting contributions from those two scientific fields.

The agreement with the societies was signed last 20 February. As a result of this collaboration we have appointed two new Associate Editors-in-Chief: Enrique Moltó (IVIA, Valencia) from the SEA and Lorenzo Burgos (CEBAS, CSIC, Murcia) from the SECH. They will coordinate the evaluation of articles sent by members of their two societies. We welcome them to this editorial work and thank their time and help.

Finally, in this issue we have a sincere dedication to the memory of Dr. Fernando Orozco, an INIA researcher who died last summer. He did significant work in the development of animal breeding and genetics in Spain. He was also involved in the conservation of poultry genetic resources and in the teaching of quantitative genetics and applied statistics. He will always remain in our memory.